

REMARKS

Claims 10-38 are pending in the application. Favorable examination in light of the remarks which follow is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is imposing a Restriction Requirement on the claims, categorizing the claims as follows:

Group I: system claims 10-29, and

Group II: method claims 30-38.

Applicants elect with traverse Group II for examination. Claims 30-38 read on elected Group II. Applicants traverse on the ground that the PCT rules for unity are indeed satisfied.

The Examiner is also imposing an Election Requirement on the claims, categorizing the claims as follows:

Various virus species as described in claim 37.

Applicants elect with traverse the Species of Sindbis virus for examination. In Group II, claims 30-38 read on the elected Species of Sindbis virus. Claims 30-38 are generic. Applicants traverse on the ground that all the viruses recited in claim 37 are enveloped viruses. In this context, all the viruses recited in claim 37 are similar in nature and structure. The enveloped nature of the viruses constitutes a special technical feature which satisfies the unity requirement.

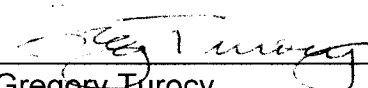
Applicants further traverse on the grounds that searching the elected virus species and the unelected virus species does not impose a great burden on the Examiner. Moreover, again it is noted that the PCT rules for unity are satisfied. Consequently, withdrawal of this election requirement is also warranted.

Should the Examiner believe that a telephone interview would be helpful to expedite favorable prosecution, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

In the event any fees are due in connection with the filing of this document, the Commissioner is authorized to charge those fees to our Deposit Account No. 50-1063.

Respectfully submitted,

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